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Inside Today

Multiple snowstorms expected through next week, temperature in teens. » A3

Russians charged with meddling

13 accused of plot to disrupt 2016 presidential election

By Eric Tucker
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — In an extraordinary indictment, the U.S. special counsel accused 13 Russians Friday of an elaborate plot to disrupt the 2016 presidential election, charging them with running a huge but hidden social media trolling campaign aimed in part at helping Republican Donald Trump defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton.

The federal indictment, brought by special counsel Robert Mueller, represents the most detailed allegations to date of illegal Russian meddling during the campaign that sent Trump to the White House. It also marks the first criminal charges against Russians believed to have secretly worked to influence the outcome.

The Russian organization was funded by Yevgeny Prigozhin, according to the indictment. He

is a wealthy St. Petersburg businessman with ties to the Russian government and President Vladimir Putin.

Trump quickly claimed vindication Friday, tweeting that the alleged interference efforts began in 2014 — “long before I announced that I would run for President.”

“The results of the election were not impacted. The Trump campaign did nothing wrong — no collusion!” he tweeted.

But the indictment does not resolve the collusion question at the heart of the continuing Mueller probe, which before Friday had produced charges against four Trump associates. U.S. intelligence agencies have previously said the Russian government interfered to benefit Trump, including by orchestrating the hacking of Democratic emails, and Mueller has been assessing whether the campaign coordinated with the Kremlin.

The latest indictment does not focus on the hacking but instead centers on a social media propaganda effort that began in 2014 and continued past the election, with the goal of producing distrust in the American political process. Trump himself has been reluctant to acknowledge the interference and any role that it might have played in propelling him to the White House.

RUSSIA » A3

GOOD MORNING



The weather.

Mostly cloudy. A slight chance of snow in the morning. Highs in the mid- to upper-teens. Tonight: Partly cloudy. Lows around 4 above.

High today 19
Low tonight 6


WEATHER » A5

Aurora forecast.

Auroral activity will be active. Weather permitting, active auroral displays will be visible overhead from Utqiagvik to Anchorage and Juneau, and visible low on the horizon from King Salmon and Prince Rupert.

This information is provided by aurora forecasters at the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. For more information about the aurora, visit <http://www.gi.alaska.edu/AuroraForecast>

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NONSTOP VICTORY

Ice Dogs raise winning streak to 20 games.

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SOURDOUGH JACK:
“It’s already over? Doggone!”



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STORAGE TANK CONSTRUCTION



IGU and AIDEA board members tour the construction site of the new Liquefied Natural Gas 5 million-gallon full containment storage tank being built off Tria Road on Friday afternoon. The \$47 million project will be the third LNG storage tank in the state and is being built almost entirely by Alaska workers. ERIC ENGMAN/NEWS-MINER



A worker with Arctic Foundations Inc. of Anchorage welds pipes together for the thermosiphon system.

Hamlyn earns Red Lantern as Quest comes to close

By Brad Joyal
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WHITEHORSE, YUKON — The 35th running of the Yukon Quest 1,000 Mile International Sled Dog Race came to a close Thursday night when rookie Nathaniel Hamlyn reached the finish line in Shipyards Park.

Hamlyn will receive the Red Lantern award, which is given to the last musher to finish the race. He completed his run in 12 days, 11 hours and 13 minutes after starting Feb. 3 in Fairbanks.

The race was particularly challenging for Hamlyn, who owns and operates Step Up Kennels in Whitehorse. He began the race with 12 dogs — two shy of the maximum 14 dogs teams are allowed to start with — and his team took a hit just days into the race.

As Hamlyn was coming down Rosebud Summit, a 3,640-foot peak after the Two



Red Lantern winner Nathaniel Hamlyn of Whitehorse talks with fans and media after finishing the 2018 Yukon Quest in Whitehorse’s Shipyards Park just before midnight Thursday. The rookie was hesitant to provide an answer when asked if he planned on running the Quest again. ROBIN WOOD/NEWS-MINER

Rivers checkpoint — the first stop during the race — four of his dogs suffered shoulder injuries. He dropped all four at the next checkpoint — Mile

101 Steese Highway — forcing him to alter his game plan for the remainder of the race.

HAMLYN » A5

State rests in murder trial

By Dorothy Chomicz
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The prosecution rested its case against Patrick Dale Burton-Hill on Friday with testimony from the detective who investigated the May 17, 2015, shooting death of John D. Kavairlook Jr.

Burton-Hill, 24, of San Francisco, is accused of killing Kavairlook in the Walgreens parking lot after Kavairlook got in a fight with one of Burton-Hill’s friends inside the nearby Rock N Rodeo bar. Burton-Hill is charged with one count of first-degree murder and two counts of second-degree murder.

According to police reports and witness testimony, Burton-Hill, his younger brother Kelvin Burton, Joel Joseph and Demarius Hinson drove from Anchorage to Fairbanks on May 15, 2015, for a weekend getaway. Hinson drove the men in Burton-Hill’s silver SUV because he knew the way. Before leaving Anchorage, Hinson put a Glock 9 mm pistol, which he was purchasing from David Joseph, in the SUV’s glove box.

The four men checked into the Wedgewood Resort, went to Kodiak Jack’s on Friday night, and shopped for clothes and shoes at Bentley Mall the next day. The men went to Kodiak Jack’s again on Saturday before heading to the Rock N Rodeo bar.

Kavairlook and his wife, Shalene Kavairlook, arrived at the bar early that morning with two friends. Hinson was downstairs playing pool when John Kavairlook accused him of touching his wife’s buttocks. Hinson and John Kavairlook fought briefly before bouncers separated them and kicked them both out of the club. The Kavairlooks were joined by friend Michael Beans, and Hinson was joined by his three friends.

KAVAIRLOOK » A5